



**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**November 20, 2008  
For immediate release**

- 1. DNR, Habitat for Humanity distribute carpet to Iowa disaster victims**
- 2. Livestock producers – prevent overfull manure storage**
- 3. Missouri River Authority to discuss Flood Control Act**

## **DNR, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY DISTRIBUTE CARPET TO IOWA DISASTER VICTIMS**

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Linda King at (515) 281-4876 or [Linda.King@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Linda.King@dnr.iowa.gov).

DES MOINES — More than 80 northeast Iowa businesses and individuals impacted by this spring's natural disasters have received free carpet valued at nearly \$50,000, thanks to the DNR's Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE) and the Habitat for Humanity Restore of Greater Des Moines (Habitat).

This fall, Habitat received a donation of commercial-grade carpeting from Bentley Prince Street in California to be distributed to Des Moines flood victims. Damage sustained in the Des Moines area was far less than had previously been estimated, resulting in nearly 50,000 square feet of carpet remaining in Habitat's limited warehouse space.

Shelene Codner, area resource specialist for the IWE, was contacted by Habitat to coordinate distribution of the remaining carpet. Codner knew Butler and Black Hawk counties had an overwhelming need for materials after destruction from an EF5 tornado in May and extensive flooding in June.

Organizing manpower and transport proved to be difficult and threatened to derail Codner's efforts. "In hearing the overwhelming obstacles that disaster victims had overcome, there was no way we could let little things like manpower and transportation

stand in the way of getting this needed resource to these courageous survivors — landfilling was not an option,” Codner said.

Des Moines Area Community College’s (DMACC) Transportation Institute stepped in to haul the carpet from Des Moines to northeast Iowa. On Nov. 4, volunteers loaded 110 rolls of carpeting into one of DMACC’s semi trailers for transport to the Butler County Fairgrounds in Allison and distribution to disaster victims.

Business owners Tina Hansen and Jon Kirgis of New Hartford decided to rebuild after this summer’s flooding and received some of the donated carpet. “We did not know how we were going to afford carpet for the restaurant, since it was completely flooded,” Hansen said.

Individuals hit by the natural disasters were also able to receive carpet. “My wife and I were affected by this summer’s floods and found the carpet to be quite helpful in restoring our home for ourselves and our three young girls,” said Kevin Rohne of Butler County.

Additional resources from around the state are being directed to disaster recovery efforts through the Iowa Waste Exchange. Some of the materials might otherwise end up in a landfill.

The Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE) is one of the nation's premier materials exchange programs. There is a booming market for byproducts and wastes produced by Iowa institutions and businesses. Since 1990 the Iowa Waste Exchange has matched over 2.6 million tons, keeping materials out of landfills and into our economy saving Iowans \$59.6 million by diverting this waste into production and use.

For more information about the Iowa Waste Exchange or to locate your area resource specialist, go to [www.iowadnr.gov/waste/iwe/index.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/waste/iwe/index.html).

*Writer: Emily Grover*

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## **LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS – PREVENT OVERFULL MANURE STORAGE**

**MEDIA CONTACT: Ken Hessenius at (712) 262-4177.**

SPENCER — Livestock producers should check their manure storage structures and make sure they have enough capacity to make it through the winter.

“With the late harvest and prospects of snow and frost on the horizon, producers need to be thinking about where they can apply manure now so they don’t get caught with full

manure storage and less than desirable places to apply the manure,” said Ken Hessenius, supervisor of the Spencer DNR field office.

If producers have nearly full storage and can’t get enough applied before the ground freezes, Hessenius urges them to call their local DNR field office for assistance and options. Field office staff can make recommendations that will help producers avoid runoff from a field.

“They may also think of some alternatives that the producer hasn’t thought of,” he added.

Producers should not pump the manure to the ground or a nearby field, he said. And, they should not let the structure overflow. Both of those options could lead to a fish kill or water quality violation with resulting penalties.

Hessenius added that producers with open feedlots should walk below their feedlot after every rainfall or freeze-thaw cycle to ensure runoff is not entering Iowa streams, rivers or lakes.

Field offices are listed on the Web site at [www.iowadnr.gov/fo/index.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/fo/index.html). Or, call one of the offices listed below:

- Northeast Iowa, Manchester, (563) 927-2640.
- North Central Iowa, Mason City, (641) 424-4073.
- Northwest Iowa, Spencer, (712) 262-4177.
- Southwest Iowa, Atlantic, (712) 243-1934.
- South Central Iowa, Des Moines, (515) 725-0268.
- Southeast Iowa, Washington, (319) 653-2135.

*Writer: Karen Grimes*

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## **MISSOURI RIVER AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS FLOOD CONTROL ACT**

**MEDIA CONTACT: Bernie Hoyer at (515) 281-7247 or [bernie.hoyer@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:bernie.hoyer@dnr.iowa.gov)**

DES MOINES – An interagency group that makes policy recommendations on Missouri River concerns will discuss a proposed review of the 1944 Flood Control Act Nov. 24 in Des Moines.

The flood control act has been the primary management guidance from Congress for more than 60 years.

The Missouri River Authority will meet from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the fourth floor east conference room of the Wallace Building, 502 East Ninth St. The meeting is open to the public.

A proposal to change bylaws is also on the agenda, along with finalizing recommendations to the eight-state Missouri River Association of States and Tribes for a December meeting in Rapid City, S.D.

The complete agenda is available below and on the state public meetings calendar at [www.iowa.gov/state/main/pmc/pmc.php](http://www.iowa.gov/state/main/pmc/pmc.php) under Department of Natural Resources.

- Review Minutes from Oct. 20, 2008, Meeting
- Review Missouri River Association Agenda for Dec. 1-2, 2008, meeting in Rapid City
- Review and Make State Interagency Missouri River Authority Decisions Regarding Proposed By-Law Changes to MoRAST
- Review Pre-Draft White Paper on Scope of Proposed Study on Management of Missouri River by Corps (1944 Flood Control Act)
- Discuss MoRAST Draft Response to 2008-2009 Missouri River Annual Operating Plan
- Sharing for Better Missouri River Communications
  1. Agency Sharing
  2. Public Participation

Five Iowa agencies are represented on the Missouri River Authority. They include the Governor's office; the Secretary of Agriculture; the Chair of the Utilities Board; and the Directors of the departments of natural resources, transportation and economic development or their designees.

*Writer: Karen Grimes*